

October 2008

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# Crop and Pasture Report



RURAL SOLUTIONS SA

Prepared by Rural Solutions SA for  
PIRSA Grains Industry Development



# CROP AND PASTURE REPORT

OCTOBER 2008

COMPILED 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2008 BY PETER FULWOOD

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## Rural Solutions SA District Reporters

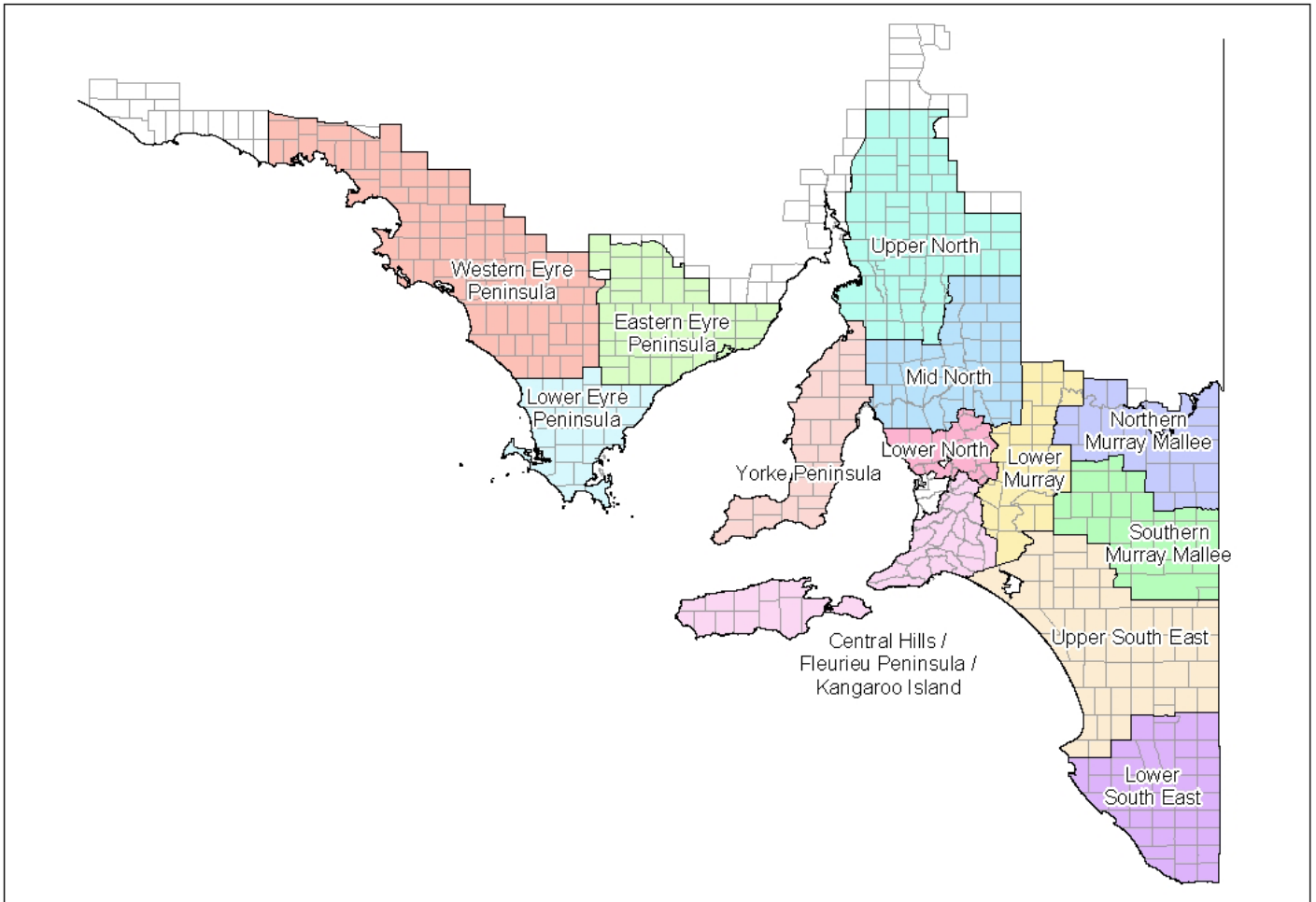
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## Crop Reporting Districts



### KEY LINKS

**National Agricultural Monitoring System (NAMS):** <http://www.nams.gov.au>

**South Australia Land Condition:** [http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/land/monitoring/current\\_reports.html](http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/land/monitoring/current_reports.html)

### Drought Hotline

Phone 180 2020 or log onto <http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp>

For drought related information on support services, local rural financial counsellors, information on Centrelink payments and services, maintaining land condition, managing stock and crops in dry times, and the condition of the River Murray and Murray-Darling Basin.

# Summary of Crop and Pasture Conditions in South Australia October 2008

*Prepared by Peter Fulwood*

## **WEATHER**<sup>1</sup>

South Australian rainfall data for the last month is available from the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/sa/observations.shtml>

- Mean daily maximum temperatures were at least 2-3°C above average in most districts.
- Several frosts were recorded, mostly in northern and eastern districts.

## **RAINFALL**

- Monthly rainfall was well below average in all districts with some centres having their lowest October rainfall on record; totals in most areas were 10 mm or less.
- On a statewide basis this has been the driest October on record.
- Growing season rainfall (April-October) is almost uniformly below average across all districts.

## **PREVIOUS SEASONS**

- Last season (2007) was variable, from severe drought affected areas in the north to near average crop production further south, on the back of the severe statewide drought of 2006.

## **SEASON TO DATE**

- Seeding was largely completed during May and early June under varying moisture conditions. Rapid crop growth occurred during June with relatively mild temperatures, although patchy establishment and frequent strong winds delayed emerging crops in some areas. Good rains during July and August enabled crops to maintain growth, although colder, frosty conditions did slow development. Well below average rainfall in both September and October caused crop yield potential to drop significantly in all districts. Harvest has now commenced and further rainfall will be of benefit only to a few later maturing crops.

## **CROPS**

- Minimal rainfall during October caused an ongoing decline in yield potential in all districts, although many crops did appear to hang on remarkably well reflecting differences in soil type and crop management.
- In most cases earlier sown crops have done better, however some have struggled through the exceptionally dry spring where additional nitrogen was applied during winter causing excessively bulky growth.
- Harvesting of barley commenced around Port Pirie in early October with both yields and grain quality showing the extreme variability typical of a very dry, hard finish.
- Paddocks in some areas will not be reaped or will barely return seed and stock have also been turned onto failed crops, although most farmers are waiting as long as possible before grazing to maintain soil cover.
- Grain marketing is causing general concern with issues such as freight charges, silo closures, marketing schemes and prices foremost.
- Yet again we have seen an extremely disappointing finish to a season that had great potential at the end of winter; the ongoing financial implications for many farmers are likely to be severe.
- Total crop area is estimated to be 4 million hectares with crop production estimated at 4.74 million tonnes.

## **PASTURES**

- Pastures have largely dried off, however paddock feed levels and soil cover are generally adequate at this stage, although in the driest areas the feed situation is already of concern and farmers are looking for harvested stubble paddocks as soon as possible.
- Haymaking progressed during the month, including areas of frost affected crops as well as some well grown crops on heavier soil types considered to have better value as hay than grain.

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<sup>1</sup> Acknowledgment

Weather information:- Climate and Consultative Services Section of the Bureau of Meteorology: Internet: [Hhttp://www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)

## DISTRICT REPORTS

### Western Eyre Peninsula

*By Neil Cordon*

#### WEATHER

- October was similar to September with warming temperatures (up to 40°C), occasional hot, north winds and dry conditions.

#### RAINFALL

- For the second successive month gaugings were well below average with the following rainfall at selected centres (averages in brackets): Streaky Bay 3 mm (26), Penong 3 mm (25), Ceduna 3 mm (23), Minnipa 0 mm (28), Mt Cooper 2 mm (34), Nundroo 3 mm (23), Elliston 3 mm (30).

#### CROPS

- Harvest has started, primarily in barley and field peas, with only small areas of early sown wheat harvested.
- Initial reports indicate yields ranging from less than 0.5 t/ha to 2 t/ha, with grain quality also showing a wide variation in screenings and grain weights. Yields are from early sown crops and do not reflect district or farm averages.
- Some paddocks will not be reaped or will barely return seed.
- The better areas are Nundroo, Mt Cooper, Elliston and Mt Damper.
- The spread of grain quality is a reflection of the commencement of moisture stress, with early onset having reasonable quality whilst poorer quality coming from crops maturing during a sudden, shorter dry period. There also appears to be a reflection on variety with consistent reports of Maritime barley having better grain quality.
- Grain marketing is creating stress in the rural community with issues such as freight charges, silo closures, marketing schemes and prices foremost.

#### PASTURES

- While stock numbers have increased over latter years, this season many farmers have sold stock, retained breeders and cut hay to ensure they can maintain levels through to next season's break.
- With some exceptions paddock feed and stubbles coming on line should enable livestock to be carried through.
- Paddock cover is very limited in some areas.

### Eastern Eyre Peninsula

*By Neil Cordon*

#### WEATHER

- Warming temperatures, occasional hot, north winds and dry conditions.

#### RAINFALL

- Gaugings were well below average for the second successive month with the following rainfall at selected centres (averages in brackets): Cleve 2 mm (37) and Kimba 2 mm (31).

#### CROPS

- Harvest has just started mainly in barley and field peas, with very little wheat harvested to date.
- Initial reports suggest yields ranging from less than 0.5 t/ha to 2 t/ha, with grain quality also showing a wide variation in screenings and grain weights. Yields are from early sown crops and do not reflect district or farm averages.
- The variation in grain quality reflects the commencement of moisture stress at different stages of crop growth, with early onset having reasonable quality whilst poorer quality coming from crops maturing during a sudden, shorter dry period.
- There are reports of Maritime barley having better grain quality.
- Paddocks in some areas will not be reaped or will barely return seed.

- The areas which are most affected are south of Kelly, Buckleboo and Cowell.
- Grain marketing is creating stress in the rural community with issues such as freight charges, silo closures, marketing schemes and prices foremost.

## PASTURES

- Stock numbers have tended to increase over recent years, however this season many farmers have sold stock while retaining breeders and cut hay to ensure they can maintain levels through summer / autumn.
- Paddock feed and stubbles coming on line should enable livestock to be carried through with some exceptions.

## Lower Eyre Peninsula

*By Kieran Wauchope*

### WEATHER

- Poor conditions were experienced again with several days over 30°C and winds reaching 90 km/h.
- As a result of these conditions soil moisture was non-existent and the effect of the huge amount of vegetative growth was seen in full.

### RAINFALL

- As with September there were no significant falls received this month.
- Each fall seemed to be followed with warm, windy days so little benefit was felt from these falls in the marginal areas.
- Cummins is now on a decile 1 year, while Tumby Bay, Ungarra and Coles Point remain on decile 2.

### CROPS

- Windrowing commenced with approximately 70% of canola now cut.
- Most hay is now baled with some reports of above average yields coming from south of Cummins and the Yeelanna area.
- The hot and windy conditions early in the month caused further damage to crop yields, but the damage was already done in September.
- Some cereals are only just ready to harvest at the end of the month, with many having to stay out of the paddocks due to the late drizzly conditions.
- Some of the lighter soils still have crops that are green.
- Some insecticides were sprayed to control native budworm and aphids, but many tried holding out to see if natural predators would save the extra cost.
- Reports of very high screening levels are causing concern, as some marketers seem reluctant to buy.
- Farmers need to assess the value of selling low grade wheat compared to putting it through stock.

### PASTURES

- Some farmers have turned stock onto failed crops.
- Feed quality dropped dramatically during the month, but there is still some good bulk in the more reliable areas.
- Low feed levels in some areas are causing concern regarding keeping cover on paddocks.

## Yorke Peninsula

*By Peter Fulwood*

### WEATHER

- Temperatures were mild to warm with a number of hotter days during the month.
- Mean daily maximum temperatures were 2-3°C above average.

### RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was well below average, with totals ranging from 1.6 mm (Port Victoria) to 7.8 mm (Port Vincent).
- Growing season rainfall (April-October) is below average throughout the district.

## CROPS

- Minimal rainfall during October caused crop yield potential to decline throughout the district.
- Crops south of Minlaton appear worst affected while many of those on central and northern Yorke Peninsula are in reasonable condition depending on soil type, time of sowing and nitrogen management during the growing season.
- In many cases earlier sown crops are doing better, however there are instances where additional nitrogen applied to early sown crops during winter resulted in soft, bulky crops which have really struggled through the exceptionally dry spring.
- Harvesting of barley and peas commenced in coastal areas, and most canola has been windrowed.
- Reported yields for barley have ranged from 1-3 t/ha, with quality ranging from F2-F4 due to the high levels of screenings resulting from the hard finish.
- Yields are expected to be extremely variable reflecting differences in soil type and crop management.
- Oats and other cereals intended for hay have been cut, however relatively few other crops have been cut for hay with most farmers preferring to take them through to harvest.
- Crop yield potential has now fallen to below average across much of the district and most crops are not likely to respond to further rainfall at this stage.

## PASTURES

- Pastures have largely dried off, however paddock feed levels and soil cover are currently adequate in most parts.
- Only a limited amount of pasture hay has been cut because of the dry conditions, with yields somewhat down on average.

## Lower North

*By Peter Fulwood*

### WEATHER

- Temperatures were mild to warm with a number of hotter days during the month.
- Mean daily maximum temperatures were 2-3°C above average.
- Several light frosts in some areas.

### RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was well below average, with totals ranging from 3.6 mm (Robertstown) to 14.4 mm (Tanunda).
- Growing season rainfall (April-October) is below average throughout the district.

## CROPS

- Very dry conditions during October caused crop yield potential to decline throughout the district, although many crops have hung on remarkably well largely depending on soil type and time of sowing.
- In most cases earlier sown crops are doing better, however some have struggled through the exceptionally dry spring where additional nitrogen was applied during winter causing excessively bulky growth.
- Some frost damage has been reported, mostly in canola crops.
- Harvesting of barley and peas has commenced and most canola has been windrowed.
- Initial yields for barley have ranged from 1.2-4 t/ha with quality ranging from F1-F4 due to the high levels of screenings, indicating the extreme variability which is typical of a very dry finish.
- Early reports of pea crops indicate reasonable yields but smaller grain size.
- Ongoing dry conditions have ensured foliar diseases remained at low levels.
- There have been reports of some infestations of native budworm on canola crops.
- Oats and other cereals intended for hay have been cut and mostly baled, with quite good yields and quality reported.
- Crop yield potential is now slightly below average throughout the district and the majority of crops are not likely to respond to further rainfall at this stage.

## PASTURES

- Pastures have largely dried off, however paddock feed levels and soil cover are adequate at this stage.
- Some pasture hay has been cut, although yields are somewhat down on average given the very dry spring.
- Carting water for stock is likely to become an issue in the area north of Kapunda through to Marrabel, as there has been very little run-off to fill dams.

## Mid North

*By Tom Yeatman*

### WEATHER

- Temperatures were moderate to warm.

### RAINFALL

- The month was notable for its lack of rainfall with only a shower recorded in the first week.

### CROPS

- Crops progressed to senescence very quickly due to the hot weather and lack of moisture.
- Crops in the driest areas died, with others in the better areas in the south of the district looking better but starting to show signs of moisture stress later in the month, as they started to senesce.
- Harvest began mid month with barley yields being highly variable and quality generally poor with small grain.
- Pulses were hit with the hot weather in dry conditions during flowering and are expected to yield poorly.
- Canola is filling pods in dry conditions which will limit yield, although they flowered well.
- Hay cutting progressed during the month with very good quality hay.
- Frost caused some damage in low lying areas especially in canola and peas.
- Yields are going to be near last year's after looking very good at the end of August, the lack of rain causing the downturn in outlook.

## PASTURES

- Pastures are maturing rapidly in the warm, dry conditions with production less than was expected.
- Hay from cut crops is expected to be in demand for feeding stock.

## Upper North

*By Michael Wurst*

### WEATHER

- Mild to warm days with cold nights and several severe frosts in parts of the district.
- Several hot, north winds followed by a cool change with minimal rainfall.

### RAINFALL

- Rainfall for October has been well below average across the whole district.

### CROPS

- Minimal rain was received during the month.
- Crops in all parts of the district have ripened quickly with extremely low yield potential.
- Many crops in the more marginal cropping areas, particularly on heavier soil types, have died prematurely and will not be harvested.
- Some growers have already turned stock onto failed crops, but most are waiting as long as possible before grazing to maintain soil cover.
- Rainfall from now on is likely to be of minimal benefit to crops even in the later districts.
- Harvesting of barley commenced around Port Pirie in early October.
- Harvesting of barley is now underway in most areas of the district, which will be the earliest on record in many areas.
- Most growers in the western part of the district have finished harvesting barley and have started on wheat.

- Grain yields in the western part of the district have been very variable, with crops on the lighter soils yielding average (or in some cases above average), but well below average on some of the heavier soils.
- Harvest is slow due to the poor grain quality and many are cleaning grain to improve quality.
- Grain quality of barley has been very poor with the best being Feed 2 and reports of Feed 4 and 5.
- There is currently no market for Feed 4 or higher, so most growers are warehousing grain.
- Early reports are that there will be high screenings in many wheat crops.
- A severe frost in early October caused severe damage to barley, wheat and canola crops in the Jamestown, Spalding and Hallett area and many of these have been cut for hay or grazed.
- Large areas of well grown crops on the heavier soils throughout the district have been cut for hay.
- The extremely dry conditions have meant that moisture levels have been too low for baling hay.
- Numerous growers in the eastern part of the district have started harvesting, but have not finished baling hay.
- Morale is extremely low and many producers are starting to question if there is a future in farming.

## **PASTURES**

- There is limited pasture growth in all areas of the district with the ongoing dry conditions.
- Many growers have reduced stock numbers.
- Supplementary feeding is an option, but some growers are tired of continually feeding stock.

## Central Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island

*By David Creeper and Tim Prance*

## **WEATHER**

- Temperatures have remained mild for October, except for a couple of days of above average temperatures and northerly winds associated with weather fronts moving through the state.

## **RAINFALL**

- Rainfall has continued to remain well below average for October (less than half).
- Rainfall ranges have been from 7-35 mm.

## **CROPS**

- All crops have suffered as a result of the low rainfall during September and October.
- Most crops are well on their way to maturity and harvest will be earlier as a result of the drier conditions in September and October.
- Yield estimates will be slightly lower than September estimates in some crops, as a result of soil moisture levels being inadequate.

## **PASTURES**

- Pasture growth has suffered as a result of below average rainfall in September and October, and soil moisture levels are well down as a result.
- Fodder conservation is well underway across the district and is approximately 2-3 weeks ahead of normal. While dry matter yields are down, the quality of the hay will be very good.
- An early finish has also meant that curing times are longer as a result of cooler weather conditions during fodder conservation.
- Growers are urged to check moisture levels before baling to reduce the risk of spontaneous combustion later when the hay is shedded or stored.
- Low soil moisture levels and lack of significant rain have resulted in no runoff into farm dams, which will be an issue coming into summer.
- Any late rains in October or early November may be useful for regrowth and assist those landholders who irrigate pastures.

## Northern Murray Mallee

*By Chris McDonough*

### WEATHER

- Warm to hot and dry conditions throughout the district.

### RAINFALL

- The Northern Mallee received 4-6 mm of rain at the start of October, but the rest of the month was dry.
- Loxton received 4.4 mm for the month (29 mm average).
- Most areas have only received between 115 mm and 150 mm for the season.

### CROPS

- Cereal crops are toward the end of ripening, and some harvesting of barley has commenced.
- Crops have held on remarkably well after yet another year of very low spring rainfall, with crops sown early on sandy loam soils generally fairing the best.
- Yields will be generally below average, ranging from 0.5-1 t/ha, although there are some paddocks that will exceed 1.5 t/ha after less than 140 mm for the year.
- It appears that grain quality could be slightly lower this year, with the potential for higher screenings.
- Despite another very dry season, there generally remains reasonable to good soil cover levels going into summer across the Northern Mallee.

### PASTURES

- The feed situation is generally low at present, but stubbles will become available very soon.

## Southern Murray Mallee

*By Tanja Morgan*

### WEATHER

- October conditions were warm to hot with higher than average day temperatures.

### RAINFALL

- Rainfall was virtually non-existent across the entire district.

### CROPS

- All crops are suffering from an entire growing season under drought stress, and once again crop yields and quality will be disappointing for all farmers.
- Some frost damage has been observed and some crops have been cut for hay as a result, particularly canola as frosted cereal crops have not been thick enough to cut in many instances.
- It is estimated around 25-30% of crops may fail to be harvested, with a handful cut for hay and the remainder left for stock grazing purposes.
- Paddock activities include haymaking and windrowing of canola.
- Harvest will begin within a week or two, depending on weather conditions in the next couple of weeks.

### PASTURES

- The feed situation for livestock is already of great concern, and farmers are looking for harvested stubble paddocks as soon as possible.
- Livestock are being sold as a result of the expected feed shortage in the coming months.

## Lower Murray

*By Keith Bolto*

### WEATHER

- Temperatures in Murray Bridge have been more than 3°C above average for October.
- Wind erosion has been minimal.
- There have been areas of frost at anthesis.

**RAINFALL**

- Total rainfall for October in Murray Bridge was 4.5 mm, which is well below the average of 34 mm.
- The most significant fall was 2.2 mm on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October.

**CROPS**

- Crops have suffered moisture and heat stress during the crucial times of flowering and grain fill.
- Most crops are at grain fill stage, maturing quickly in response to the weather conditions.
- Some crops are almost harvest ripe and hence have set yield.
- There have been few crop pests reported.
- Late sown and frosted crops have been cut for hay, resulting in increased hay production.
- Haymaking is complete in most areas.
- Few crops will respond to additional rain.

**PASTURES**

- The majority of producers have sufficient pasture feed.
- Pasture quality is now moderate due to senescence.
- Medic seed set has been reduced due to the dry conditions
- Aphids were identified feeding on moisture stressed medic plants earlier in the month.

## Upper South East

*By Craig Bell***WEATHER**

- Temperatures were generally warm for the month with high temperatures above 34°C recorded on the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Two frosts were recorded during the month.
- Mean daily maximum temperatures were around 2°C warmer than the long-term averages.
- Wind speeds were relatively calm throughout the month.

**RAINFALL**

- Rainfall totals were well below average in all areas of the Upper South East.
- Most areas received about 7 mm of rain early in the month around the 6<sup>th</sup>, but then received little or no rain for the rest of the month.
- The highest recordings were at Meningie with 10.8 mm, mainly due to 3 mm on the 27<sup>th</sup> which other areas didn't receive.

**CROPS**

- Despite the lower than average rainfall, crops are still holding on with reasonable yields predicted.
- Shallow soil over rock and deeper sandy soils are showing signs of moisture stress as are the heavy flats, but the loamy ground is holding on.
- There have been some crops cut for hay that had been intended for harvest.
- Baling has started where conditioners have been used.
- Pulses and canola have generally finished flowering with some pod abortion due to high temperatures.
- Harvest in the area is still a few weeks off.

**PASTURES**

- Pastures have finished early with the reduced rainfall, but are still providing dry feed.
- Grasses have set seed with some pasture topping taking place to control seed set.
- Medic pastures are setting pods following flowering early in the month.
- Stock are waiting for harvest to access stubble feed.

## Lower South East

*By Peter Fulwood*

### WEATHER

- Temperatures were mild to warm with occasional hotter days.
- Mean daily maximum temperatures were 1-3°C above average.
- Several frosts were recorded in inland parts of the district.

### RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was well below average, with totals ranging from 2.6 mm (Millicent - lowest on record) to 17.4 mm (Mount Gambier).
- Growing season rainfall (April-October) is well below average throughout most of the district.

### CROPS

- Crops continue to hang on, however minimal rainfall combined with several frosts has caused a significant reduction in yield potential during October.
- The majority of cereals are at various stages of grain development with windrowing of barley likely to commence in the next couple of weeks.
- The earliest canola crops are now being windrowed.
- Harvest is expected to start early this year and be completed over a relatively short period.
- A series of three consecutive frosts in the second half of the month damaged pea and canola crops in central and northern parts of the district.
- Some bean crops, especially broad beans, are reported to have had very poor pod set due to the dry, frosty conditions and in some cases have been fed off to stock.
- Ongoing dry conditions ensured foliar diseases remained at low levels.
- There have been reports of some infestations of native budworm and Rutherglen bug.
- Some of the more bulky cereal crops have been cut for hay where it was considered the returns were likely to be better than for a potentially lower grain yield.
- Crop yield potential has now fallen to a bit below average across the district and further rainfall would be needed within a couple of weeks to be of benefit to crops.

### PASTURES

- Paddock feed has started to dry off quickly with annual pastures now mostly finished, however soil cover remains good.
- Pasture hay / silage has been cut earlier than normal with the dry conditions, however yields have been well down on average.
- The first cut of irrigated lucerne hay has been recently done.

## Crop Production Estimates

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES SOUTH AUSTRALIA - FIELD CROP PRODUCTION ESTIMATES Pg 1

**October 2008**

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CROP	Western Eyre Peninsula	Lower Eyre Peninsula	Eastern Eyre Peninsula	Yorke Peninsula	Upper North	Mid North	Lower North	Subtotal	
<b>WHEAT</b>	465,000	129,000	363,000	148,000	208,000	216,000	42,000	1,571,000	<i>ha</i>
	265,000	219,000	345,000	281,000	167,000	357,000	97,000	1,731,000	<i>t</i>
<b>DURUM</b>	0	0	600	30,000	12,000	6,700	4,500	53,800	<i>ha</i>
	0	0	300	50,000	10,000	12,000	9,000	81,300	<i>t</i>
<b>BARLEY</b>	116,000	93,000	118,000	208,000	135,000	139,000	39,000	848,000	<i>ha</i>
	81,000	163,000	124,000	437,000	135,000	243,000	98,000	1,281,000	<i>t</i>
<b>OATS</b>	12,500	3,200	4,900	5,000	9,000	8,000	2,000	44,600	<i>ha</i>
	5,000	4,000	2,500	7,000	7,000	11,000	3,500	40,000	<i>t</i>
<b>RYECORN</b>	400	0	500	0	0	0	0	900	<i>ha</i>
	200	0	200	0	0	0	0	400	<i>t</i>
<b>TRITICALE</b>	1,700	900	4,500	2,100	2,800	4,000	1,000	17,000	<i>ha</i>
	700	1,500	2,900	3,000	2,500	5,900	2,100	18,600	<i>t</i>
<b>PEAS</b>	8,800	8,100	7,000	41,000	20,000	23,000	11,500	119,400	<i>ha</i>
	3,500	8,100	4,900	45,000	16,000	26,000	17,000	120,500	<i>t</i>
<b>LUPINS</b>	1,500	24,000	5,000	1,500	3,200	2,900	900	39,000	<i>ha</i>
	600	24,000	3,000	1,500	2,800	3,000	1,000	35,900	<i>t</i>
<b>BEANS</b>	900	6,900	200	12,000	6,200	13,000	6,000	45,200	<i>ha</i>
	300	6,900	100	14,000	3,000	12,000	7,200	43,500	<i>t</i>
<b>CHICKPEAS</b>	0	700	800	6,000	550	2,000	800	10,850	<i>ha</i>
	0	550	400	4,800	250	1,900	700	8,600	<i>t</i>
<b>LENTILS</b>	200	1,300	0	34,000	2,000	4,400	3,000	44,900	<i>ha</i>
	70	1,100	0	27,000	1,000	3,700	3,000	35,870	<i>t</i>
<b>VETCH</b>	200	700	500	2,000	5,000	2,600	300	11,300	<i>ha</i>
	40	200	100	1,400	500	1,700	250	4,190	<i>t</i>
<b>CANOLA</b>	1,500	45,000	3,000	15,000	13,000	32,000	7,000	116,500	<i>ha</i>
	500	45,000	1,500	16,500	11,000	31,000	8,400	113,900	<i>t</i>
<b>HAY</b>	7,500	6,000	7,500	25,000	40,000	32,000	16,000	134,000	<i>ha</i>
(not included in total)	6,000	14,000	11,000	59,000	130,000	93,000	54,000	367,000	<i>t</i>
<b>TOTAL ha</b>	<b>608,700</b>	<b>312,800</b>	<b>508,000</b>	<b>504,600</b>	<b>416,750</b>	<b>453,600</b>	<b>118,000</b>	<b>2,922,450</b>	<i>ha</i>
<b>TOTAL t</b>	<b>356,910</b>	<b>473,350</b>	<b>484,900</b>	<b>888,200</b>	<b>356,050</b>	<b>708,200</b>	<b>247,150</b>	<b>3,514,760</b>	<i>t</i>

## PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES SOUTH AUSTRALIA - FIELD CROP PRODUCTION ESTIMATES Pg 2

October 2008

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CROP	Kangaroo	Central Hills	Lower	Nth Murray	Sth Murray	Upper	Lower	TOTALS
	Island	& Fleurieu	Murray	Mallee	Mallee	South East	South East	
WHEAT	5,000	6,000	63,000	190,000	115,000	69,000	24,000	2,043,000 <i>ha</i>
	9,000	9,000	60,000	155,000	86,000	137,000	61,000	2,248,000 <i>t</i>
DURUM	0	300	800	700	0	3,500	0	59,100 <i>ha</i>
	0	400	600	350	0	6,700	0	89,350 <i>t</i>
BARLEY	3,000	9,500	60,000	55,000	125,000	92,000	18,000	1,210,500 <i>ha</i>
	6,000	19,000	60,000	45,000	94,000	175,000	44,000	1,724,000 <i>t</i>
OATS	3,000	1,500	3,000	3,000	4,000	8,500	4,500	72,100 <i>ha</i>
	6,000	3,000	2,500	2,500	2,000	12,000	10,400	78,400 <i>t</i>
RYE	0	0	1,200	4,000	4,000	900	0	11,000 <i>ha</i>
	0	0	800	3,000	2,400	500	0	7,100 <i>t</i>
TRITICALE	600	2,300	10,000	18,000	28,000	7,800	2,000	85,700 <i>ha</i>
	1,200	4,500	10,000	15,000	21,000	11,000	4,600	85,900 <i>t</i>
PEAS	200	1,100	1,600	0	2,000	3,800	400	128,500 <i>ha</i>
	300	1,700	800	0	1,000	5,000	800	130,100 <i>t</i>
LUPINS	2,000	1,500	1,000	1,500	8,000	17,500	3,500	74,000 <i>ha</i>
	3,200	2,700	700	800	2,400	19,000	4,900	69,600 <i>t</i>
BEANS	200	300	100	0	100	11,500	15,000	72,400 <i>ha</i>
	300	500	40	0	40	13,000	25,000	82,380 <i>t</i>
CHICKPEAS	0	0	0	0	0	300	400	11,550 <i>ha</i>
	0	0	0	0	0	230	400	9,230 <i>t</i>
LENTILS	0	0	0	0	0	1,500	100	46,500 <i>ha</i>
	0	0	0	0	0	1,200	100	37,170 <i>t</i>
VETCH	0	0	200	0	4,000	400	0	15,900 <i>ha</i>
	0	0	150	0	400	300	0	5,040 <i>t</i>
CANOLA	4,000	1,200	2,000	3,000	6,000	26,000	8,500	167,200 <i>ha</i>
	8,000	1,900	1,500	1,000	1,800	31,000	12,000	171,100 <i>t</i>
HAY	7,000	24,000	13,000	4,000	8,000	55,000	43,000	288,000 <i>ha</i>
(not included in total)	28,000	96,000	32,000	6,000	12,000	152,000	138,000	831,000 <i>t</i>
TOTAL ha	18,000	23,700	142,900	275,200	296,100	242,700	76,400	3,997,450 <i>ha</i>
TOTAL t	34,000	42,700	137,090	222,650	211,040	411,930	163,200	4,737,370 <i>t</i>

### South Australian Field Crops

#### Area sown for grain, grain production, five year average and current year estimates

Crop	Unit	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	5yr Av	2008/09
Wheat	Area (ha)	2,013,100	2,057,000	1,977,400	2,035,781	2,101,227	2,036,900	2,043,000
	Prod (t)	3,601,900	2,686,700	3,699,700	1,481,974	2,250,970	2,744,200	2,248,000
Durum	Area (ha)	91,500	60,750	59,850	50,250	54,750	63,400	59,100
	Prod (t)	194,850	110,600	154,300	25,700	95,400	116,200	89,350
Barley	Area (ha)	1,093,500	1,119,900	1,170,500	1,154,060	1,225,163	1,152,600	1,210,500
	Prod (t)	2,492,100	1,825,100	2,545,900	1,029,030	1,776,660	1,933,800	1,724,000
Oats	Area (ha)	73,300	67,400	72,300	82,383	85,659	76,200	72,100
	Prod (t)	119,550	87,800	119,400	44,362	95,457	93,300	78,400
Rye	Area (ha)	8,950	7,650	10,000	8,600	9,000	8,800	11,000
	Prod (t)	7,850	4,550	11,900	2,700	4,800	6,400	7,100
Triticale	Area (ha)	85,900	88,900	83,400	89,880	93,967	88,400	85,700
	Prod (t)	146,850	98,000	125,500	53,379	97,649	104,300	85,900
Peas	Area (ha)	111,600	119,800	143,130	145,190	146,874	133,300	128,500
	Prod (t)	151,850	147,700	257,910	91,084	152,909	160,300	130,100
Lupins	Area (ha)	64,415	63,750	72,420	84,792	83,372	73,700	74,000
	Prod (t)	94,368	72,288	121,460	46,795	77,898	82,600	69,600
Beans	Area (ha)	92,021	94,648	70,420	73,607	70,877	80,300	72,400
	Prod (t)	192,017	135,434	168,540	39,398	105,494	128,200	82,380
Chickpeas	Area (ha)	3,650	2,950	1,590	4,640	5,993	3,800	11,550
	Prod (t)	4,180	2,580	2,230	2,173	5,075	3,200	9,230
Lentils	Area (ha)	68,550	55,900	54,410	57,620	54,603	58,200	46,500
	Prod (t)	88,730	57,675	101,890	23,456	55,952	65,500	37,170
Vetch	Area (ha)	22,200	24,200	14,520	16,431	15,756	18,600	15,900
	Prod (t)	16,200	9,400	15,243	3,639	8,629	10,600	5,040
Canola	Area (ha)	189,000	193,500	147,600	157,672	163,351	170,200	167,200
	Prod (t)	311,900	228,850	213,400	72,938	152,989	196,000	171,100
Hay (not included in total)	Area (ha)			277,700	170,000	220,000	222,600	288,000
	Prod (t)			1,084,800	250,000	520,000	618,300	831,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	Area (ha)	3,917,700	3,956,300	3,877,500	3,960,900	4,110,600	3,964,600	3,997,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	Prod (t)	7,422,300	5,466,700	7,537,400	2,916,600	4,879,900	5,644,600	4,737,400

#### Notes:

Current year estimates assume average rainfall and temperature conditions for the remainder of the growing season.

Grain estimates are for total grain production and include grain delivered for immediate sale and warehousing plus grain retained on farm for seed, feed and future sale.

Hay estimates are for total hay production and include all pasture, cereal and other crops cut for hay, both dryland and irrigated.

The estimates are based on information provided by Rural Solutions SA District Reporters from a variety of sources, and are updated throughout the season as conditions change and further information becomes available.

They are intended to be used only as estimates of crop area and grain production and are current at the time of preparation of the report.

The estimates have been updated using recently available ABS census data.

Prepared by Peter Fulwood 31 October 2008